Employment Opportunities in Urban Areas

†4194. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that employment opportunities are on constant decline due to derth of new employment opportunities in urban areas and particularly in the small and medium cities in the country;

(b) if so, the number of unemployed persons in these cities in the year 1990-91 and 1999-2000; and

(c) the schemes that were launched by Government in these cities in order to generate employment opportunities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir. As reported by the Planning Commission, the latest National Sample Survey (NSS) round (55th round) conducted in 1999-2000 gives the estimates of urban employment on Usual Principal and Subsidiary Status (UPSS basis) as 93.58 million. The same for 1993-94 (50th round) was 81.79 million. The estimated annual rate of growth of employment in urban areas between 1993-94 and 1999-2000 as per UPSS was 2.27%.

(b) NSSO have released latest data on employment and unemployment situation in India pertaining to the year July 1999— June 2000 (NSS 55th round). A detailed Annexure as provided by NSSO is enclosed. [*See* Appendix 195 Annexure No. 41]

(c) The Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation has been implementaing Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), a Central Sponsored Urban Poverty Alleviation Programme, with effect from 01.12.1997 on all India basis with a view to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed or underemployed poor through (i) encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures by those who have read upto 9th standard and (ii) provision of wage employment by utilising their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets.

New urban policy

4195. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to formulate any new urban policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi